

## Message Text

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11  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /034 W  
----- 102548

R 241624Z SEP 76  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5868  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS  
USMISSION OECD PARIS  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, UK, SP  
SUBJECT: TUC DELEGATION TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

1. A TUC DELEGATION WILL VISIT SPAIN SEPTEMBER 15-18  
AND PORTUGAL SEPTEMBER 19. THE DELEGATION INCLUDES JACK  
JONES, CHAIRMAN OF THE TUC INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE AND  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS  
UNION; LEN MURRAY, TUC GENERAL SECRETARY; JOE GORMLEY,  
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINERS; GEORGE SMITH,  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE UNION OF CONSTRUCTION, ALLIED  
TRADES AND TECHNICIANS; AND ALLAN HARGREAVES, HEAD OF THE  
TUC INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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2. THIS WILL MARK THE FIRST VISIT BY AN OFFICIAL TUC

DELEGATION TO SPAIN SINCE THE DAYS OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC. IT IS DESCRIBED BY A TUC SPOKESMAN AS "EXPLORATORY" IN CHARACTER. ALTHOUGH THE SPANISH UGT INITIATED THE INVITATION TO THE TUC AND IS ARRANGING A SERIES OF MEETINGS FOR THE DELEGATION. THE BRITISH TRADE UNION LEADERS WILL ALSO BE VISITING OTHER TRADE UNION GROUPS IN SPAIN INCLUDING THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE TUC POLICY OF ENCOURAGING A UNIFIED TRADE UNION MOVEMENT, BOTH IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL, EVEN IF IT MEANS INCLUSION OF THE COMMUNISTS. WHEN THE UGT HELD ITS FIRST CONGRESS SINCE THE DEATH OF FRANCO SOME MONTHS AGO, THE TUC LIMITED ITSELF TO A MESSAGE WHILE MOST OF THE OTHER EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CENTERS SENT REPRESENTATIVES. THE DELEGATION WILL VISIT PORTUGAL ONLY BRIEFLY' BUT HERE THE PROBLEM IS SIMPLIFIED FOR THE TUC SINCE THERE IS A UNITARY MOVEMENT. THE INTERSINDICAL.

3. THE EMPHASIS BY THE TUC ON UNITY OF THESE TRADE UNION GROUPINGS, EVEN IF IT MEANS INCLUSION OF THE COMMUNISTS, IS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE AFL-CIO POSITION. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN GEORGE HARDY, THE AFL-CIO FRATERNAL DELEGATE, ADDRESSED THE TUC CONGRESS ON SEPTEMBER 9 HE REFERRED TO THE INTERSINDICAL AS HAVING BEEN "DOMINATED NOT BY SOCIALISTS. NOR BY WORKERS, BUT BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF PORTUGAL" AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH WHAT HE SAID WAS THE AIM OF THE NEW SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT "TO DISMANTLE THE INTERSINDICAL AND TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH FREE LABOR MOVEMENTS CAN EXIST -- NOT JUST UNIONS APPROVED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY."

ARMSTRONG

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LONDON15227  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760362-0761  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760924/aaaaatvf.tel  
**Line Count:** 93  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TUC DELEGATION TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL  
**TAGS:** ELAB, UK, SP, US, (JONES, JACK), (MURRAY, LEN), (GORMLEY, JOE), (SMITH, GEORGE), (HARGREAVES, ALLAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006